

# Creel Survey

October 17, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmon/Steelhead

**Cowlitz River** – On the lower river anglers are primarily catching coho.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 5795 coho adults, 608 jacks, 2227 fall Chinook adults, 93 jacks, 43 summer-run steelhead, 35 sea-run cutthroat trout and one pink salmon during seven days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 599 coho adults, 18 jacks, 190 fall Chinook adults and four jacks into the upper Cowlitz River at the Skate Creek Bridge in Packwood; they released 924 fall Chinook adults, 42 jacks, 1325 coho adults and 64 jacks into Lake Scanewa behind Cowlitz Falls Dam, and they released 98 fall Chinook adults, one jack, 227 coho adults and seven jacks into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket creek.

Also during the week 702 fall Chinook adults, 29 jacks, 915 coho salmon adults, 101 jacks and 14 cutthroat were released into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

The pink salmon was released into the Cowlitz River at the Barrier Dam boat launch during the week.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 4,940 cubic feet per second on Monday, October 17. Water visibility is 16 feet.

**Kalama River** – Anglers are catching a mixture of fall chinook, coho, and steelhead though most of the chinook were released.

**Lewis River** – On the mainstem Lewis, bank and boat anglers are catching some coho. On the North Fork, boat anglers are catching as many chinook as coho while bank anglers are primarily catching coho.

**Wind River** – Light effort and catch. October 31 is the last day to fish for salmon.

**White Salmon River** – Boat anglers are catching some coho though many are unmarked and have to be released.

**Klickitat River** – On the lower river, anglers are catching coho and some fall chinook. Under permanent rules, all chinook must be released upstream from the Fisher Hill Bridge beginning November 1.

**Yakima River** – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish Biologist in Pasco WA - Angler effort decreased slightly this week as river flows increased on the lower Yakima River. Harvest remained strong. This past week there were an estimated 1,063 angler trips on the Yakima River for salmon. WDFW staff sampled 156 anglers with 21 adult Chinook, 8 jacks, and 1 coho. Anglers averaged one Chinook for 12 hours of fishing. Estimated harvest for the week was 171 adult Chinook, 53 jacks, and 9 coho. For the season an estimated 474 adult Chinook, 200 chinook jacks, and 28 coho have been harvested.

Oct. 22 is the last scheduled day of the salmon fishery.

Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam - Last week we sampled 242 salmonid anglers (including 53 boats) with 33 adult and 3 jack fall chinook, 21 adult coho, and 1 steelhead. All the Chinook and the steelhead were kept as were 16 (76%) of the coho.

Under permanent rules, fishing for salmon is closed from Beacon Rock to Bonneville Dam beginning November 1.

**Bonneville Pool** – Boat anglers at the mouth of Klickitat are doing well for coho and some fall chinook.

**Hanford Reach** – From Paul Hoffarth, WDFW Fish Biologist in Pasco WA - Staff interviewed 219 boats last week with 279 adult Chinook and 83 jacks. Anglers averaged 1.7 chinook per boat. An estimated 1,772 adult Chinook and 527 jacks were harvested this past week. There were an estimated 3,264 angler trips this past week. For the season, 10,118 adult Chinook, 2,402 jacks, and 43 coho have been harvested.

Under permanent rules, Oct. 22 is the last day of the salmon fishery from the Highway 395 Bridge at Pasco upstream to Wanapum Dam.

On October 15, the in-season return estimate for the Hanford Reach was updated. The adult return estimate is now predicted to be 72,904 adult Chinook (not including hatchery returns). The in-season estimate increased by 8,000 adult Chinook from the previous estimate (10/7).

## **Sturgeon**

**Lower Columbia mainstem from the Wauna powerlines to Bonneville Dam** – Slow for bank anglers just below Bonneville Dam that averaged a legal kept per every 15.3 rods based mainly on incomplete trips. We also sampled some legals caught by boat anglers in the gorge, Vancouver, and Kalama areas.

## **Walleye**

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** – Boat anglers are still catching some walleye in the Camas/Washougal area.

10/17/2011

Salmonid

SturgeonWalleye

	Bank				#	Boat			
	<u>Sec.</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Boats</u>	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>
Bonneville	1								
Camas/Washougal	2				5	7	3	0	
	3								
Vancouver	4								
Woodland	5								
Kalama	6								
Cowlitz	7								
Longview	8								
Cathlamet	9								
Chinook/Elochoman	10								
<b>Total</b>		0	0	0	5	7	3	0	

Area	Bank	Chinook		Chinook		Coho		Coho		Steelhead		Other	Boat	Chinook		Chinook		Coho		Coho		Steelhead		Other
	<u>Anglers</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>			<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Kept</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	
Cowlitz River	69	0	0	0	0	5	1	3	0	0	0	0	23	1	0	0	0	13	0	9	0	0	0	0
Kalama River	84	2	1	23	0	23	2	9	0	6	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lewis River mainstem	11	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	5	0	6	2	0	0	0
North Fork	189	3	1	4	2	37	0	19	2	1	0	0	21	10	1	2	1	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Wind River													2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White Salmon River													12	0	0	0	0	2	0	9	0	0	0	0
Klickitat River	30	4	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	1	0	0	0	15	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bonneville Pool													149	8	0	0	0	109	0	1	0	0	0	0

Washington Southwest Washington lakes sport sampling summaries - Oct. 3-9.

No report.